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Mixing toxicity with beauty, the striped bubble-shell Hydatina phtysis is an example of the sea slugs and nudibranchs, all of which have thin, reduced shells or have lost their protective shells altogether. In compensation, they have developed chemical defences that repel most predators, and their vivid colours are a warning: 'Eat me at your peril!' Sponges, such as the vivid red Tedania anhelans in the background, have been a favourite target of pharmaceutical investigations exploring their potential anti-cancer properties. Both the dark-green zoanthids (Zoanthus sansibaricus) and the light-green seaweed Caulerpa peltata are also members of genera that contain toxins which repel consumers or suppress the growth of competitors.

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